

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 198469 TOSEC 200299

71

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 SS-15 IO-13

SIG-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06

ACDA-07 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /115 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:PMAYHEW,FMISCH:CHG

APPROVED BY P - MR HABIB

FBIS - RCARLING

IO - MR BAKER

EA - MR ARMSTRONG

ARA/LA:MOSKOWITZ

AF/I:JWHITING (SUBS)

EUR MR GO TT

NEA/RA:LSEMAKIS

S/S - MR. SEBASTIAN

----- 077588

P 102155Z AUG 76 ZFF5

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

XMT AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198469 TOSEC 200299

E.O. 11652: GDS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 198469 TOSEC 200299

TAGS:PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN, US

SUBJECT:NORTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT STATEMENT CHARGING U.S.
WAR PREPARATIONS

REF: COLOMBO 2795 (NOTAL)

TOKYO PASS TO ASST SECRETARY HUMMEL

1. ON AUGUST 5 NORTH KOREANS ISSUED LENGTHY GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ATTACKING U.S. THIS STATEMENT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY SUPPORTING MEMORANDUM ON "THE U.S. SCHEME TO IGNITE WAR IN KOREA." STATEMENT INDIRECTLY REJECTS SECRETARY'S JULY 22 PROPOSALS (IN ONE PARAGRAPH OUT OF 24), STATING THAT THE U.S. IS "TALKING ABOUT A CERTAIN CONFERENCE OF CONCERNED PARTIES. THIS REPRESENTS STALLING TACTICS TO IMPEDE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JUST RESOLUTION OF THE KOREAN QUESTION ADOPTED AT THE 30TH UNGA SESSION. IT IS NOTHING MORE THAN A SMOKESCREEN TO COVER UP THEIR TRUE COLOR IN AGGRAVATING TENSIONS AND THE DANGER OF WAR IN KOREA." RESOLUTION REFERRED TO IS "HOSTILE" RESOLUTION OF 30TH GA WHICH WAS ADOPTED AT SAME TIME AS FRIENDLY RESOLUTION SPONSORED BY U.S. AND OTHER SUPPORTERS OF ROK.

2. STATEMENT LARGELY FOCUSES ON ALLEGATIONS THAT U.S. HAS COMPLETED WAR PREPARATIONS AND IS ENTERING INTO "A PHASE OF DIRECTLY TRIGGERING WAR FROM A PHASE OF PREPARING FOR WAR." IT APPEALS TO "GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES OF ALL THE PEACE-LOVING NATIONS...TO DIRECT DEEP CONCERN TO AND STEADFASTLY CONDEMN THE DANGEROUS U.S. MANEUVERS TO TRIGGER A WAR IN KOREA."

3. STATEMENT ALSO CONTAINS "DECLARATION" THAT THE U.S. MUST WITHDRAW ALL ITS MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM THE ROK, QUIT ITS "TWO KOREA" POLICY, DISBAND THE UN COMMAND, AND WITHDRAW ALL FOREIGN TROOPS UNDER THE UN FLAG (U.S. FORCES IN KOREA UNDER BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE ALSO MEANT), AND REPLACE ARMISTICE WITH PEACE AGREEMENT. REUNIFICATION OF KOREA COULD THEN BE ACHIEVED BY "KOREAN PEOPLE THEMSELVES", WITHOUT INTERFERENCE FROM OUTSIDE FORCES, "THROUGH A GREAT NATIONAL CONGRESS BROADLY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 198469 TOSEC 200299

REFLECTING THE WILL OF THE ENTIRE NATION."

4. ACCOMPANYING GOVERNMENT MEMORANDUM, "RECOGNIZING THE NECESSITY OF REVEALING IN MORE CONCRETE TERMS THE CRIMINAL NATURE OF THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS", IS A 61 PARAGRAPH LISTING OF ALLEGED RECENT U.S. PUBLIC STATEMENTS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE ROK, ROK ACTIONS, AND U.S. MILITARY ACTIONS RELATED TO THE ROK. THEY ARE

INTERPRETED AS ESTABLISHING THAT THE DANGER OF WAR IN KOREA COMES FROM THE THREAT OF THE SOUTH TO THE NORTH AND NOT FROM A SOUTHWARD INVASION BY THE NORTH. IT ALSO INCLUDES A RITUAL PLEA FOR SUPPORT FROM THE "PEACE-LOVING PEOPLES."

5. INTERESTINGLY, ON ONLY TWO RECENT OCCASIONS HAS PYONGYANG PROTESTED ALLEGED U.S. PROVOCATIVE ACTIONS IN KOREA THROUGH DEVICE OF A "GOVERNMENT STATEMENT": AT THE TIME OF SEIZURE OF THE PUEBLO IN JANUARY 1968; AND WHEN U.S. RECONNAISSANCE PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN IN APRIL 1969. FORM OF GOVERNMENT STATEMENT MAY HAVE BEEN CHOSEN TO LEND SPECIAL AUTHORITY TO FAMILIAR POSITION IN ADVANCE OF NAM SUMMIT WHERE NORTH HOPES TO COUNTER OUR EFFORTS TO STRESS NON-CONFRONTATIONAL APPROACH.

6. SUBSTANTIVELY, THERE IS NOTHING NEW IN STATEMENT. IN TERMS OF NORTH KOREA'S PROPAGANDA POSTURE SINCE MARCH, AUGUST 5 GOVERNMENT STATEMENT REPRESENTS CULMINATION OF PYONGYANG'S ANTI-U.S. CAMPAIGN IN PREPARATION FOR NAM COLOMBO CONFERENCE. STATEMENT REVEALS NO FLEXIBILITY,

REITERATES STERILE CONFRONTATION WITH U.S. AND ROKG, AND, IN FACT, RAISES LEVEL OF RHETORIC BY ASSERTING THAT PREPARATIONS FOR WAR HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. WHILE IT LEAVES THE DOOR OPEN FOR SOUTHERN PARTICIPATION IN EVENTUAL RE-UNIFICATION, THERE IS NO MENTION OF THE ROKG. IN EFFECT IT COUNTERS U.S. FOUR-POWER CONFERENCE PROPOSAL WITH PERENNIAL DEMAND FOR U.S. WITHDRAWAL AND REITERATION OF STANDING NORTH KOREAN THEMES.

7. INCIDENTAL FORM OF DISMISSAL OF SECRETARY'S JULY 22 PROPOSALS SEEMS DESIGNED TO AVOID HAVING TO DEAL WITH CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 198469 TOSEC 200299

THEIR SUBSTANCE. FOR EXAMPLE, SPECIFICS OF THE PROPOSAL ARE IGNORED, INCLUDING REFERENCE TO PARTICIPANTS WHO WOULD ATTEND CONFERENCE. IN CONTRAST, NORTH KOREA LAST YEAR ISSUED FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT REJECTING SECRETARY'S PROPOSALS, COMMENTED ON SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF PROPOSAL, AND IN ADDITION MADE STATEMENT DURING UNGA SESSION TURNING DOWN PROPOSALS.

8. WHILE WE ANTICIPATED A REPETITION OF 30TH UNGA CONFRONTATION AND A FURTHER REJECTION OF SECRETARY'S PROPOSALS, THE STATEMENT, TAKEN IN TERMS OF TACTICS FOR NAM AND UNGA, DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE PARTICULARLY IMAGINATIVE. WE DOUBT THAT THERE ARE MANY COUNTRIES WHICH WILL TAKE SERIOUSLY CHARGE THAT U.S. AND ROK ARE PREPARING TO ATTACK NORTH KOREA, PARTICULARLY IF CHARGE NOT SUPPORTED

BY PRC AND/OR SOVIETS. (THUS FAR SOVIETS, ALBEIT PRIOR TO ISSUANCE PYONGYANG'S STATEMENT, HAVE PRIVATELY RE-ITERATED "OFFICIAL" POSITION THAT NO PROGRESS CAN BE MADE ON KOREAN QUESTION UNTIL U.S. TROOPS ARE WITHDRAWN, WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING "MEDIA" APPROVAL OF NORTH KOREAN REJECTION OF SECRETARY'S PROPOSALS. PRC HAS THUS FAR NOT COMMENTED ON PROPOSALS PUBLICLY. MOSCOW AND PEKING MEDIA HAVE CARRIED EXCERPTS FROM NORTH KOREAN AUGUST 5 STATEMENT BUT HAVE NOT YET COMMENTED ON IT.

9. THERE IS ALSO OBVIOUS CONTRADICTION IN NORTH KOREAN STANCE: WHILE CHARGING THE U.S. AND THE ROK WITH INCREASING TENSIONS, IT DECLINES STANDING U.S.-ROK INVITATION TO MEET TO SEEK TO REDUCE TENSIONS. STATEMENT ALSO FAILS TO RESPOND TO DESIRE EXPRESSED BY MAJORITY NON-ALIGNED FOR SOUTH-NORTH NEGOTIATIONS, ON KOREAN PROBLEMS.

10. WE DO NOT PLAN SPECIAL COMMENT ON STATEMENT AT THIS TIME. WE DO NOT WISH TO GIVE WEIGHT TO IT, AND TACTICALLY WE DO NOT WISH TO BE FORCED TO ADOPT ITS

IMPLICATION -- THAT UNGA CONFRONTATION IS INEVITABLE. THEREFORE, IF ASKED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE NORTH'S APPARENT REJECTION OF THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSALS, WE WILL RESPOND THAT WE CONTINUE TO HOPE THAT NORTH KOREA
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 STATE 198469 TOSEC 200299

WILL BE WILLING TO SEEK RESOLUTION OF THE KOREAN QUESTION THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS AMONG THE PARTIES CONCERNED. AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED, OUR INVITATION TO A CONFERENCE OF ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED REMAINS OPEN. IF ASKED WHETHER THERE ARE ANY CHANGES IN U.S. FORCES OR U.S. OR ROK MILITARY ACTIVITIES WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY THE NORTH KOREAN CHARGES OF WAR PREPARATIONS, WE WILL OF COURSE STATE THAT THERE ARE NONE, AND THAT OUR POLICY IS OBVIOUSLY TO MAINTAIN PEACE AND SECURITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA.

11. NEVERTHELESS, NORTH KOREAN STATEMENT DOES POINT MORE CLEARLY TO LIKELY UNGA CONFRONTATION ON KOREA, FORCED BY NORTH KOREANS.

12. POSTS MAY AT THEIR DISCRETION DRAW ON FOLLOWING IN ON-GOING DISCUSSIONS OF KOREAN QUESTION WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS:

-- WE REGRET THAT NORTH KOREA HAS CHOSEN TO ENGAGE IN FALSE CHARGES AGAINST THE U.S. INSTEAD OF CONSTRUCTIVELY ADDRESSING THE KOREAN PROBLEM; THERE IS, OF COURSE,

NO TRUTH TO THE NORTH'S CLAIMS THAT THE U.S. OR THE
ROK IS PREPARING TO ATTACK NORTH KOREA.

-- WE CONTINUE TO HOPE THAT IT WILL BE WILLING TO SEEK
RESOLUTION OF THE KOREAN QUESTION THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS
AMONG THE PARTIES CONCERNED AS PROPOSED IN THE SECRE-
TARY'S JULY 22 SEATTLE SPEECH. OUR INVITATION TO A
CONFERENCE OF THOSE PARTIES REMAINS OPEN.

-- WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHY THE NORTH
KOREANS, WHO CHARGE U.S. AND THE ROK WITH INCREASING
TENSIONS, ARE UNWILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONFERENCE
TO SEEK MEANS TO REDUCE TENSIONS OR TO RESUME DIRECT
SOUTH-NORTH DISCUSSIONS.

-- WE CONTINUE TO HOPE TO AVOID STERILE CONFRONTATION
IN THE UNGA AND HOPE THOSE COUNTRIES WITH INFLUENCE
WITH THE NORTH WILL URGE A MORE FLEXIBLE POSITION ON IT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 06 STATE 198469 TOSEC 200299

ROBINSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WAR, ALLEGATIONS, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE198469
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PMAYHEW,FMISCH:CHG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760308-0264
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760867/aaaacgoe.tel
Line Count: 249
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 COLOMBO 2795
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <02 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT STATEMENT CHARGING U.S. WAR PREPARATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, US, UNGA
To: ALL POSTS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006